

to me that the Republicans are trying to gut Medicare now. Now, when the program serves as a security blanket for 37 million Americans. Now, when Medicare serves as a lifeline to our seniors. Well, let me say this to my Republican colleagues: we cannot balance the budget on the backs of our seniors. We should be celebrating and embracing our seniors, not stabbing them in the back by taking away their health care.

REPUBLICANS WORKING TO SAVE MEDICARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, shame on you, to my colleague from the fine State of Florida. What are you trying to do utilizing these scare tactics? You know they are inaccurate. You know they are false.

I just went to the Webster's dictionary. You like to quote the Webster dictionary. Let us quote another word out of the Webster's dictionary, called "save." Save means to rescue, save means to keep safe. Save means to preserve.

Do you think this is going to go away if you put your head in the sand? Do you think if you tell American people enough times that we are going to throw seniors out in the streets, that people are going to go hungry, that there is not going to be medicine provided by this fine and great country of ours, that they are going to begin to ignore the crisis that we have in Medicare?

When are you going to come to your sense that this thing is going broke?

Your President, my President, has. He appointed trustees and they came out and said if we do not do something about this program by the year 2002—
ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will address his remarks to the Chair.

Mr. MCINNIS. I thank the Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, when will the gentleman recognize the fact that the Medicare Program is in very serious trouble? The President's trustees themselves have said that that program will be broke by the year 2002.

Is it the theory of some of the people—mind you, not all of the Democrats are opposing this. We have some bipartisan support to save Medicare, to rescue Medicare, to preserve Medicare. But there are some people out there who, by the way, do not have a plan of their own, who, by the way, do not talk about solutions, all they talk about is how do we use scare tactics, how do we scare the Republicans, how do we win the elections in November?

Why do they not put that selfishness aside and talk about the senior citizens in such a way to save the Medicare Program for them, to preserve the Medicare Program for them? Sure it is

easy to criticize the first person out of the foxhole.

We have been willing to take that leadership challenge. We are willing to be the first people out of the foxhole, because if somebody does not do it, Medicare is going to go bankrupt.

There are a lot of my colleagues who did the same kind of yelling and pulled the same kind of tactics on the deficit, a deficit that accumulates at a rate of \$35 million an hour. They hid their head in the sand, they told the American people, "Ignore it, ignore it, it's not happening, it's not happening, it's not happening," and they became convinced that some of the American people were becoming convinced that the deficit was not a problem.

□ 2045

Look where we are today. Look at the suffering that the American people have today because this Congress did not take the responsibility of running a balanced budget in the last 25 years. But to my colleagues on the House floor, we are going to face exactly the same kind of crisis with Medicare if we do not accept that responsibility. If you do not like the plan we have got, come out with a solution. Do not spend our fine time tonight addressing the people in this House, our colleagues, telling them criticism after criticism, quoting Webster's Dictionary. Go look up the word "solution" in Webster's Dictionary. That is where we ought to be working, Democrats, Republicans, unaffiliated. Let us all work for a solution.

I think it can work. I want Medicare saved. I want it rescued. I want it kept safe.

My dear colleague from the State of New Jersey, same kind of thing, same kind of rhetoric. Stand on this House floor, tell the American people that the seniors are going to go without health care, that they will not get to choose their doctors, mislead all you want, be inaccurate as you want, put in a scare tactic and ignore the true problem, that problem being that if we do not do something with Medicare, my colleagues, this thing is going to go belly up. It is not going to go belly up 20 years from now. It is going to go belly up while many of you are still serving in this House.

It is our obligation, a fundamental responsibility of our duty to this country, to save that program, to save the senior citizens, to make sure that senior citizens of this country do have the medical attention that is necessary. When we are done with that, we have got a lot of other things that we need to address, the deficit. And we are trying to address it.

I think we will get it done. I am optimistic we are going to be able to save Medicare.

I am used to people criticizing and never joining the team. We have got a lot of people that like to ride the wagon and not pull it. If some of my colleagues preceding me speaking to-

night would instead help pull the wagon instead of trying to get a ride on it or sitting on the side criticizing why we are not getting that wagon out of deep mud, we may not be able to get it out.

If some of my colleagues who spoke earlier come up with some solutions, work with us in a bipartisan fashion, we can pull that wagon out of the mud, and we can save the program.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL TIME IN SPECIAL ORDERS

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, would I get an opportunity, maybe 30 seconds, to respond, since the gentleman called my name during his presentation?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SALMON). The gentlewoman cannot be recognized for that purpose. She has already spoken for 5 minutes. However, if the gentlewoman would like to get some time from one of the Members speaking later, that would be acceptable.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. FARR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. FARR of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BROWN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE NORMAN Y. MINETA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I hope that we can pause for a moment from the policy issues which divide us at this particular time, and they are extremely important issues, and move on to something that I think we can find a great deal more unanimity about.

I have taken the time this evening to say a few words in praise of our colleague, the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. MINETA], and before I make my own remarks on this matter, I would like to yield to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. MATSUI] for a few words on this subject.

Mr. MATSUI. I would like to thank the distinguished dean of the California delegation for yielding to me and also setting up this special order tonight on behalf of our dear colleague, the gentleman from California [Mr. MINETA],

from San Jose, CA. I am only going to take a few moments.

But I would like to just say on behalf of the people of the State of California, certainly my colleagues in the U.S. Congress and certainly the Asian-American community and people of color generally that we are losing in this institution in the next few weeks truly one of the champions and one of the leaders that, in my opinion, will go down in history as truly an outstanding legislator.

When I decided to run for Congress in 1978, one of the first individuals that called me was NORM MINETA to offer his assistance, even though I was going to be engaged in a very, very difficult Democratic primary. I cannot tell you how much that moment meant to me when that phone call came in, and from that time on I have looked upon NORM MINETA as really not only a colleague and a dear friend but as a mentor, as somebody that I would look to in terms of a rule model for leadership, for values of what it is to be a legislator.

I think that all of us, as a result of NORM'S leaving this institution and going in the private sector, will miss him truly, dearly.

As many know, he was born in 1931 in San Jose, CA. One of the great achievements, I believe, of this institution over the last 20 years was the passage of House bill 442, which was the bill to provide compensation to Americans of Japanese ancestry, a bill that NORM MINETA introduced and which NORM was really the singular most important leader in moving that legislation through this institution.

NORM was 10 years old in 1942, 11 years old. He was a member of the Boy Scouts in San Jose, Cub Scouts in San Jose. His father was in the insurance business, and his mother and other brothers and sisters were living in San Jose. As I mentioned, he was born in San Jose, 11 years earlier, in 1931.

In 1942, in April, Executive Order 9066 was passed, which asked that Americans, Americans of Japanese ancestry, be interned for the duration of World War II. As I said, NORM was 11 years old. No charges were filed against him, although he was an American citizen. No trial was had. But NORM was incarcerated, along with his parents, brothers and sisters, and 120,000 other Americans of Japanese ancestry for a period of 4 years.

Some 40 years went by before Americans of Japanese ancestry were even able to talk about this, and one of the real problems that we had was the fact that to talk about the incarceration by your own Government raised the specter of disloyalty, and so it was something that we had a very difficult time discussing. It was better to hide it than to bring it out. I remember when I was in junior high school and we were discussing World War II, and one of my teachers, very well-intentioned, said to me, "BOB, weren't you in one of those camps?" I was a 6-month-old infant when I was interned, and I recall look-

ing around my at my classmates, and I denied it, because it was easier to deny it than to explain why you were jailed by your own Government because that would raise the issue of whether or not you were loyal or not.

Well NORM MINETA, when he came to Congress, decided that he was going to rectify that wrong, that injustice. Over the years, NORM introduced, as I mentioned, House bill 442, which would provide an apology by the U.S. Government to those surviving Americans of Japanese ancestry, 66,000 at the time, about a half of the 120,000, and also token compensation of \$20,000 per surviving internee, and as everyone knows, on September 17, 1987, the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States, and that date was picked by then Speaker Jim Wright after NORM MINETA requested that he pick that date, the House of Representatives, by an overwhelming majority, passed that legislation. It went to the Senate, and Senator INOUE, Senator Matsunaga, and a number of others were very instrumental in having that legislation passed, and then President Reagan, in August of 1988, signed that legislation.

I have to say that if that were NORM'S only feat, he would go down, in my opinion, and I think in the opinion of many, as a giant, a legislative giant, because in the middle of a period of austerity, to pass that kind of legislation, in my opinion, most people would have thought was impossible.

NORM is now known only for those kinds of achievements. NORM, as many recall, was the chairman of the House Public Works and Environment Committee. He was the leader in moving the legislation, which later was known as ISTEA, a bill that provided sums of money to localities to build up and repair the infrastructure of this country, which, in my opinion, still in America is so sorely needed, but with NORM'S leadership we were able to do this in a very, very important, environmentally secure way.

I will not take any more time, I say to the gentleman from California [Mr. BROWN], but I would like to just close by making one final observation, if I may. There is so much that one can say about my colleague, NORM MINETA, but I would like to just close by making this one final observation about him. I think that if one looks back at history 50 years from now and one looks at this period, one will find that the legislation that he led and sponsored to provide compensation to Americans of Japanese ancestry will go down in history as one of the most monumental legislative feats that has occurred in the last 25, maybe 30 or even 40 or 50 years.

The reason I say this is because it is not often when a government can admit it is wrong. It is not often when a government is willing to say to its own citizens, "We made a mistake, and we want to provide an apology and some minor token redress to you." I

think what NORM'S career in this institution and as a legislator represents is that one person, one person in this great country of ours, can indeed make a difference.

I would just like to say to NORM and his wife, Danny, and his children, thank you for your dedication, your commitment, and your courage of being a legislator in this great country of ours.

Mr. BROWN of California. I thank the gentleman from California [Mr. MATSUI] very much for those extremely eloquent remarks.

As I indicated, we are here to take note of NORM'S departure and to say farewell to him.

I think we are all aware that he has announced that he will be leaving us early in October to take a position in the private sector with one of the Nation's largest firms in an area in which Mr. MINETA has achieved nationwide, if not worldwide, recognition as a leader in the field of intelligent transportation systems and related activities, which I think will provide him with an opportunity, if it is possible to say this, for even greater public service than the opportunities that he has had here in Congress for more than 20 years.

I said, and I was not being entirely facetious, that this was an offer that would be hard to refuse and that I would be making the same decision that he made if I had received an offer such as that.

NORM has been a leader, a voice of reason and a voice of conscience since he was first elected to this House in 1974.

I would say that, in addition to the things that the gentleman from California [Mr. MATSUI] has already indicated about NORM'S career, that he has already more than justified a position in American politics which will be very difficult to match. The fact, as has already been mentioned, that he suffered the indignity of incarceration in a so-called relocation camp, and that this did not affect his commitment to public service, his love of his country and his desire to excel in providing leadership in this country is remarkable in itself. But he has been a community leader all of his life. He has a record of community activity in his home city of San Jose which is unexcelled. He has risen in the political hierarchy there as a member of the city council and then as mayor of that city, which, I am sure, will be remembered.

I had the pleasure of participating in the dedication of the portrait that he will have and has had mounted in the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, a marvelous portrait, I might say, but I am inclined to predict that that will be only one of many memorials that will be created in his honor over the next few years.

I would not be surprised if there is a statue in the town hall of San Jose, or